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FM AMEMBASSY KABUL
TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE
SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6394
INFO AFGHAN WAR COLLECTIVE
USIA WASHDC 1663
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE
FT BRAGG NC AFVS//POE//SB
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CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GE
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USNMR SHAPE BE//INTAFF//
USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL//CCJ2-IOM//
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 08 KABUL 0727

MILITARY ADDRESSEES ALSO FOR POLADS; PARIS ALSO FOR USDAO;
DEPARTMENT ALSO FOR NEA/PAB, MS. MILLIKAN; THE HAGUE FOR
A-DAM AND R-DAM

E.O. 12356: DECL 4/27/93

TAGS: ASEC, MOPS, MCAP, PHUM, PINR, PINS, PROP, SREF, UR, AF
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SUBJECT: AFGHANISTAN SITUATION REPORT APRIL 20 - APRIL 26, 1987

REF: KABUL 0684J

1. (C - ENTIRE TEXT.)

2. THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION MAY BE BRIEFED TO JOURNALISTS
EXCEPT WHERE OTHERWISE NOTED. (NOTE TO BRIEFERS IN ISLAMABAD,
PESHAWAR AND NEW DELHI: YOU MAY WISH TO CONSIDER CONCENTRATING

ON SUMMARIES AND SELECTED EXCERPTS FROM: PARAS 4 AND 5.)

3. SUMMARY:

(A) (FOR BRIEFING TO PRESS): MUJAHIDIN PRESSURE ON THE CITY INCREASED DURING THE WEEK WITH TWO CONFIRMED AND FOUR-TO-SIX UNCONFIRMED REPORTS OF ROCKETING OF THE CITY. OVERALL, MUJAHIDIN ACTIVITY REMAINED AT REASONABLY LOW LEVELS. AS THE DRA "CEASEFIRE" PASSED ITS 100TH DAY, EXTREMELY HEAVY CONVOY ACTIVITY TO AND FROM KABUL CORROBORATED REPORTS OF INTENSE FIGHTING SOUTH OF THE CITY IN LOGAR AND TO THE EAST ALONG THE JALALABAD ROAD. MOREOVER, REPORTS OF SOVIET REPRISAL ATTACKS AGAINST VILLAGES IN NORTHERN KUNDUZ AND TAKHAR SUGGEST A POSSIBLE SOVIET EFFORT TO DE-POPULATE THESE AREAS ADJOINING THE BORDER NEAR THE TWO RECENT MUJAHIDIN ATTACKS INTO SOVIET TERRITORY. WELL-SOURCED REPORTS ALSO DESCRIBE RECENT SOVIET REPRISALS AGAINST CIVILIANS IN THE GHAZNI AREA. HEAVY FIGHTING DURING THE WEEK ALSO IS REPORTED IN BALKH, (WHERE AS MANY AS FOUR JET FIGHTERS RECENTLY MAY HAVE EITHER CRASHED OR BEEN SHOT DOWN), KANDAHAR, SAMANGAN AND JAUZJAN. A DRA PILOT HAS DESCRIBED PROVINCIAL AIRPORTS AS DANGEROUS. OTHER REPORTS INDICATE THAT THE SOVIETS AND DRA LOST 14 AIRCRAFT IN THE APRIL 14-24 PERIOD. POLITICAL FACTIONALISM APPEARS TO BE TAKING NEW DIRECTIONS WITH REPORTED THREATS BY KARMAL LOYALISTS TO FORM A NEW PARTY AND

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INDICATIONS AMONG HARD-LINE KHALOIS OF DISAFFECTION WITH GULABZOI'S LEADERSHIP. THE DRA APPEARS TO BE HARDENING ITS LINE, NOTWITHSTANDING ITS "NATIONAL RECONCILIATION" RHETORIC: THE FOREIGN MINISTER, SPEAKING BEFORE "FRIENDLY" CHIEFS OF MISSION, STATED CATEGORICALLY THAT "THE SAUR REVOLUTION IS IRREVERSIBLE." THE DRA MEDIA HAS CLAIMED THE DISCOVERY OF AN ASSASSINATION PLOT AGAINST NAJIB, SEEMINGLY HATCHED WITH THE CONNIVANCE OF PERSONS, POSSIBLY IN THE REGIME OR PARTY, OPPOSED TO NAJIB AND NATIONAL RECONCILIATION. AMONG THE FOREIGN VISITORS INVITED TO THE SAUR REVOLUTION CELEBRATION IS THE CZECH FOREIGN MINISTER.

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4. KABUL PYROTECHNICS:

SOVIET AND REGIME AUTHORITIES TIGHTENED SECURITY MARKEDLY DURING THE WEEK PRECEDING THE APRIL 27 CELEBRATION OF THE 9TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE "SAUR REVOLUTION". SOURCES REPORT ROCKETS AND SEVERAL UNEXPLAINED EXPLOSIONS IN THE CITY.

-- APRIL 20: DIPLOMATS HEARD AN EXPLOSION INSIDE THE CITY AT 0435 AND OUTGOING ARTILLERY SOUTH OF THE CITY BETWEEN 0845 AND 0930. (NOTE PARA 7, "LOGAR" FOR DETAILS OF FIGHTING SOUTH OF KABUL.)

DURING THE MORNING A DEPARTING SOVIET AIRCRAFT DROPPED A FLARE
WHICH CAUSED A GRASS FIRE ATA U.S. EMBASSY RESIDENCE.

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- APRIL 21: A DIPLOMAT OBSERVED BILLOWING WHITE SMOKE RISING
FROM A HILLY AREA SOUTHEAST OF KABUL AT 0900.

- APRIL 22: DURING THE MORNING A DEPARTING SOVIET AIRCRAFT
DROPPED A FLARE WHICH IGNITED A FIRE AT A U.S. EMBASSY RESIDENCE.
DIPLOMATS HEARD AN EXPLOSION AT 1655 AND SUBSEQUENTLY SAW SMOKE

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RISEING FROM THE BAGRAMI AREA. (SEE PARA 6 "KABUL" FOR DETAILS
OF ROCKETING IN THIS AREA.) DIPLOMATS IN SHARE NAU HEARD TWO
EXPLOSIONS AT 1745 AND 1757. DURING THE EVENING, ACCORDING TO A
RELIABLE AFGHAN SOURCE, MUJAHIDIN CAPTURED TWO KHAD (MINISTRY OF
STATE SECURITY) OFFICERS IN THE KARTE SAKHI AREA (NEAR KOTI SANGI).
A RELIABLE AFGHAN SOURCE REPORTS TWO ROCKETS STRUCK A DRA
MILITARY COMPOUND NEAR PASHTUNISTAN SQUARE, BREAKING WINDOWS IN
A NEARBY SCHOOL AND CAUSING UNKNOWN DAMAGE TO THE COMPOUND.
ALSO OVERNIGHT, ACCORDING TO AFGHAN AND DIPLOMATIC REPORTS, ROCKETS

STRUCK THE DARULAMAN, KHAIR KHANA AND JADI MAIWAND AREAS. DIPLOMATS HEARD MIDDLE-EVENING EXPLOSIONS, POSSIBLY CAUSED BY THESE REPORTED INCOMING ROCKETS.

-- APRIL 23: AT 0550 DIPLOMATS NOTED SMALL ARMS FIRE IN WAZIR AKBAR KHAN.

-- APRIL 24: DIPLOMATS TRAVELLING FROM KABUL TO KARGHA LAKE REPORTED TIGHT SECURITY AT CHECKPOINTS. AT A NEWLY ESTABLISHED CHECKPOINT ON KARGHA DAM ROAD, WOMEN SECURITY OFFICERS CONDUCTED BODY SEARCHES ON FEMALE PASSENGERS OF VEHICLES MOVING INTO THE AREA. AT 1355 A DIPLOMAT HEARD SEVERAL SHOTS IN THE SHARE NAU AREA. A RELIABLE DIPLOMAT AND AN AFGHAN SOURCE REPORT THAT DURING THE AFTERNOON A SMALL BOMB EXPLODED IN A BUS ADJACENT TO THE KABUL HOTEL. AT THE SAME TIME REGIME FOREIGN GUESTS WERE ATTENDING A LUNCH IN THE HOTEL. NO ONE REPORTEDLY WAS INJURED IN THE BLAST.

-- APRIL 25: DIPLOMATS REPORTED OUTGOING ARTILLERY FIRE, POSSIBLY FOR TRAINING, FROM APPROXIMATELY 0530 TO 0630. THE FIRING CONTINUED INTERMITTENTLY UNTIL APPROXIMATELY 0730. DIPLOMATS REPORTED OUTGOING ARTILLERY FIRE AT 1730 AND AN UNEXPLAINED EXPLOSION AT 1735.

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5. MILITARY MOVEMENT IN THE KABUL AREA:

(A) (AIR):

AIR ACTIVITY INCREASED OVER THE PREVIOUS WEEK WITH SEVERAL EVENINGS OF RELATIVELY HEAVY AIRCRAFT ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES. HELICOPTER SURVEILLANCE WAS NOTED MOST EVENINGS. FORMATIONS OF UP TO 24 MI-24'S AND MI-8'S ALONG WITH MIG-21'S PRACTICED FOR THE SAUR REVOLUTION CELEBRATION DURING THE WEEK.

-- APRIL 20: THREE IL-76 ARRIVED AND DEPARTED

-- APRIL 21: TWO IL-76'S ARRIVED AND DEPARTED. AT 0900 TWENTY-TWO SOVIET HELICOPTERS HEADED SOUTHEAST, BOMB-LOADED, AT LOW ALTITUDE. AT 1040 AN ADDITIONAL 12 SOVIET HELICOPTERS (MOSTLY MI-24'S) DEPARTED IN A SOUTHWESTERLY DIRECTION. THE AIRCRAFT FLEW LOW WITHOUT FLARES. A BUILD-UP OF CLOUDS, WIND AND DUST AT MID-DAY REDUCED TO NEAR ZERO WHAT HAD BEEN RELATIVELY HEAVY AIRCRAFT ACTIVITY EARLIER IN THE DAY. BETWEEN 2100 AND 2145 SURVEILLANCE HELICOPTERS PATROLLED THE AIRPORT AREA AS FIXED-WING AIRCRAFT ARRIVED AND DEPARTED.

-- APRIL 22: A LIFT OF HELICOPTERS DEPARTED THE AIRPORT AT 0430. A WEATHER PATTERN SIMILAR TO THAT OF APRIL 21 RESTRICTED AIR ACTIVITY IN THE LATTER HALF OF THE DAY.

-- APRIL 23: THREE IL-76 AIRCRAFT ARRIVED AND DEPARTED. AT
0500 FOUR MI-24'S HEADED WEST OUT OF THE CITY AT LOW ALTITUDE.

-- APRIL 24: TWO IL-76'S ARRIVED AND DEPARTED.
-- APRIL 25: TWO IL-76'S ARRIVED AND DEPARTED.

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(B) (VEHICULAR MOVEMENT:)

CONVOY ACTIVITY WAS EXTREMELY HEAVY DURING THE WEEK. WITH MOST OF
THE MOVEMENT INVOLVING SOVIET CONVOYS TO AND FROM JALALABAD
AND LOGAR. RELATIVELY UNUSUAL INCLUSION OF ZU-23/4 ANTI-
AIRCRAFT GUNS IN CONVOYS HEADING TO AND RETURNING FROM THE
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EAST SUGGEST POSSIBLE GROWING SOVIET CONCERN ABOUT AN AIR THREAT
NEAR THE PAKISTANI BORDER.

-- APRIL 18-19: A RELIABLE DIPLOMAT REPORTED HEAVY SOVIET
MILITARY CONVOY ACTIVITY FROM KABUL EAST ON THE JALALABAD ROAD.

-- APRIL 20: AT 0607 A DRA CONVOY, INCLUDING 78 TRUCKS, EIGHT
BTR'S AND SEVEN BRDM'S, HEADED EAST ON JALALABAD ROAD. (ONE OF
THE BTR'S WAS SOVIET-CREWED.) AT 0615 FOUR DRA T-55 TANKS

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WERE OBSERVED MOVING EAST ON PERIMETER ROAD, POSSIBLY TO JOIN THE AFORE-MENTIONED CONVOY. AT 0620 A CONVOY OF 25 SOVIET TRUCKS (UNITE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER 301) MOVED EAST ON PERIMETER ROAD. AT 0630 A LARGE SOVIET FUEL CONVOY WAS NOTED STAGED NORTH ON SALANG ROAD. DURING THE EARLY MORNING A SOVIET CONVOY CONTAINING 12 ARMORED VEHICLES AND TEN TRUCKS MOVED SOUTH TO NORTH THROUGH KARTE PARWAN.

-- APRIL 21: AT 1550 A SOVIET FUEL CONVOY MOVED FROM PERIMETER ROAD NORTH ON THE SALANG ROAD (VEHICLE UNIT NUMBER 1051.) AT 2300 DIPLOMATS HEARD A CONVOY CONTAINING ARMOR MOVING WESTWARD THROUGH NORTHERN KABUL.

-- APRIL 22: AT 0505A DRA CONVOY OF 78 TRUCKS, MOSTLY CARRYING FUEL OR AMMO, PLUS TWO BTR-60'S, LEFT JALALABAD ROAD IN THE DIRECTION OF THE LOGAR ROAD. AT 0515 A SOVIET CONVOY CONSISTING OF 60 TRUCKS, THREE TRUCK-MOUNTED ZU-23 GUNS, THREE ARMORED VEHICLES AND FIVE TANKS, MOVED SOUTH TO NORTH THROUGH KARTE PARWAN. AT 0520 A DIPLOMAT OBSERVED 52 COVERED TRUCKS MOVING WEST ON PERIMETER ROAD FROM THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT DEPOT. AT 0525 TWENTY-FIVE SOVIET TRUCKS WITH LIGHT ARMOR AND TRUCK MOUNTED ZU-23 GUNS HEADED EAST ON PERIMETER ROAD. AT 0535 OVER 62 DRA COVERED TRUCKS (UNIT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER-LICENSE TAG-219) MOVED WEST THROUGH KABUL TOWARD THE GHAZNI ROAD. A SOVIET
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...CONVOY COMPRISING SIX ARMORED VEHICLES, THREE TANKS, FIVE AMBULANCES AND APPROXIMATELY 50 TRUCKS, MOVED NORTH TO SOUTH THROUGH KARTE PARWAN. AT 1720 A LARGE SOVIET FUEL CONVOY OF OPEN-BED TRUCKS, EACH CARRYING TWO FUEL TANKS AND TOWING A TRAILER CONTAINING AN ADDITIONAL TWO FUEL TANKS (VEHICLE UNIT NUMBER 1052), CAME OFF THE SALANG ROAD AND ENTERED THE UNDERGROUND FUEL STORAGE FACILITY NORTH OF THE SOVIET REHABILITATION CENTER ON PERIMETER ROAD. (COMMENT: WE HAVE NOTED AS MANY AS THREE TANKS PER TRUCK IN THE PAST. THIS CONFIGURATION APPEARS TO INCREASE CARRYING CAPACITY BY 33 PERCENT.
...END COMMENT)

...- APRIL 23: AT 1045 A LARGE SOVIET CONVOY WAS OBSERVED RETURNING TO BASES ALONG PERIMETER ROAD FROM JALALABAD ROAD. IT INCLUDED SELF-PROPELLED GUNS AND APPROXIMATELY THREE ZU-23/4 ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUNS. AT 1530 A SOVIET CONVOY OF APPROXIMATELY 115 VEHICLES WAS NOTED MOVING FROM THE DIRECTION OF THE LOGAR ROAD ONTO PERIMETER ROAD. IT COMPRISED TWO SEGMENTS: THE FIRST WAS LED BY A TANK WITH DEPLOYED MINE CLEARING APPARATUS AND INCLUDED BTR'S, FIVE POSSIBLE MULTIPLE ROCKET LAUNCHERS, AND ASSORTED SUPPLY TRUCKS. APPROXIMATELY SIX OF THE ARMORED VEHICLES IN THIS SEGMENT WERE TOWED. (FIVE ARMORED VEHICLES, PRESUMABLY FROM THIS CONVOY, WERE OBSERVED DISABLED ALONG THE ROAD.)

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-- APRIL 24: DURING THE MORNING A DIPLOMAT OBSERVED A

SOVIET FUEL CONVOY MOVING WESTWARD THROUGH TOWN. IT INCLUDED

FOUR JEEPS, FOUR COVERED TRUCKS, ONE TRUCK-MOUNTED ZU-23

GUN AND 20 FUEL TRUCKS. INCLUSION OF JEEPS AND LIGHT ESCORT

SUGGESTS CONVOY MIGHT HAVE BEEN MOVING TO THE LARGE SOVIET BASE AREA

IN SOUTHERN KABUL OR TO THE KARGHA AREA RATHER THAN OUT OF THE

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KABUL AREA. IN THE AFTERNOON DIPLOMATS SAW A SOVIET CONVOY (VEHICLE UNIT NUMBER 1021) ENTERING NORTHERN KABUL VIA THE SALANG ROAD WHILE A SOVIET FUEL CONVOY (VEHICLE UNIT NUMBER 1051) MOVED NORTH ON THE SALANG ROAD. AT 1630 A SOVIET CONVOY CONSISTING OF TWO BTR'S, NINE ZIL-151 (AND VARIANT) TRUCKS, 70 COVERED TRUCKS, AND APPROXIMATELY EIGHT BMP'S AND BROM'S (ALL APPEARING DUSTY AS IF IN FROM THE FIELD), WAS OBSERVED MOVING WEST ON PERIMETER ROAD (UNIT NUMBERS INCLUDED 1112 AND 251). TROOPS FROM SOME OF THE VEHICLES BIVOUACKED

ADJACENT TO THE SOVIET REHABILITATION CENTER WHILE OTHERS CONTINUED WEST ON PERIMETER ROAD. AT 1830 TWENTY-FOUR SOVIET-CREWED BTR-60'S, 70'S AND 80'S, PLUS SIX COVERED TRUCKS, MOVED INTO KARTE PARWAN FROM WESTERN KABUL. FINALLY, AT 0630 A TOTAL OF 30 HEAVILY LOADED COMMERCIAL TRUCKS, APPARENTLY ALL IN OFF THE JALALABAD ROAD, WERE PARKED AT THE KABUL CUSTOMS HOUSE.

-- APRIL 25: AT 0515 A LARGE SOVIET CONVOY, POSSIBLY THE UNIT WHICH BIVOUACKED ON PERIMETER ROAD APRIL 24, WAS OBSERVED MOVING FROM JALALABAD ROAD TOWARDS THE LOGAR ROAD. AT 0600 A SOVIET CONVOY WITH DRIVERS FROM THE 103RD GUARDS MOVED INTO NORTHERN KABUL. THE CONVOY INCLUDED 29 TRUCKS AND ONE BTR-80 ESCORT. AT 0615 A DIPLOMAT OBSERVED 85 OPEN-BED TRUCKS AND FUEL TANKERS (VEHICLE UNIT NUMBER 1111) MOVING OFF PERIMETER ROAD AND NORTH ON SALANG. MANY OF THE OPEN-BED TRUCKS CARRIED WREKKED VEHICLES. IN THE LATE MORNING A LARGE SOVIET CONVOY DVED FROM THE JALALABAD ROAD ONTO PERIMETER ROAD. IT INCLUDED BTR'S, BMP'S, AMMO TRUCKS, TOWED ARTILLERY, EIGHT-TO-TEN SELF-PROPELLED GUNS, AND THREE MAZ-537 CARRIERS, EACH BEARING DAMAGED BTR'S (SOME WITH BROKEN AXLES).

COMBAT IN THE PROVINCES --

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G. KABUL PROVINCE (CITY DEVELOPMENTS REPORTED PARA 4):

(A) (KABUL-WEST): AN AFGHAN SOURCE REPORTS THAT IN A RECENT SOVIET BOMBARDMENT OF THE PAGHMAN AREA THE HOUSE OF FORMER DRA LEADER HAFIZULLAH AMIN WAS DESTROYED.

(B) (KABUL-NORTH): A RELIABLE DIPLOMAT REPORTS THAT ON APRIL 15 MUJAHIDIN ATTACKED A DRA FUEL CONVOY AT SARAI KHWAJA (34'45"N 69'08"E) DESTROYING FIVE TANKERS.

(C) (KABUL-SOUTH): A DIPLOMAT REPORTS THAT ON APRIL 20 A FIXED-WING AIRCRAFT WAS DOWNED BY MUJAHIDIN SOUTHWEST OF KABUL. (FOR FURTHER REPORTING ON FIGHTING SOUTH OF KABUL, SEE PARA 7, "LOGAR".)

(D) (KABUL-EAST): AN AEGHAN REPORTS THAT AT OYTT APRIL 22, MUJAHIDIN ROCKETED A DRA ARMY FACILITY IN KARTE NAU NEAR BAGRAMI. WHILE THE EXTEND OF DESTRUCTION AT THE FACILITY WAS UNKNOWN, SEVERAL HOUSES IN THE AREA WERE DAMAGED. DIPLOMATS HEARD THE EXPLOSION AND SAW SMOKE RISING FROM THE AREA. ON THE NIGHT OF APRIL 16-17, MUJAHIDIN OPERATING FROM KOHE SAFI ROCKETED A SOVIET BASE IN THE SORUBI AREA. THE SOVIET TROOPS FLED THE BASE TO THE JALALABAD ROAD AND AS A RESULT THERE WERE NO SOVIET CASUALTIES ALTHOUGH THE BASE WAS DAMAGED. DIPLOMATS OBSERVED FLASHES, POSSIBLY BOMBING OR ARTILLERY, IN THE KOHE SAFI AREA BETWEEN 2100 AND 2220 ON

APRIL 21.

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7. LOGAR:

A RELIABLE AFGHAN SOURCE REPORTS HEAVY FIGHTING APRIL 20-21 IN
TWO AREAS OF LOGAR: NEAR PADKHAO (33°57'N 69°04'E) AND CHAKARI
(34°20'N 69°26'E). DIPLOMATS ALSO REPORT INTENSE FIGHTING NEAR
KULANGAR (PUL-I-ALAM, 34°06'N 69°03'E).
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HEAVY CONVOY ACTIVITY TO AND FROM THE SOUTH APPEARS TO
CORROBORATE REPORTS OF FIGHTING IN LOGAR THROUGH THE WEEK.
THE SOVIETS AND DRA REPORTEDLY SUFFERED SIGNIFICANT
CASUALTIES IN THE CHAKARI AND PADKHAO FIGHTING. APPARENTLY IN
CONJUNCTION WITH THE FIGHTING, THE POGAR ROAD WAS CLOSED TO
CIVILIAN TRAFFIC ON APRIL 21, ACCORDING TO A RELIABLE
AFGHAN SOURCE. EARLIER, IN APRIL 15-16 FIGHTING IN THE
KULANGAR AREA, DIPLOMATIC AND AFGHAN SOURCES REPORT A SENIOR
SOVIET ADVISOR WAS CAPTURED. ONE REPORT INDICATED THAT HE WAS

DRUNK AT THE TIME. THE DIPLOMATIC ACCOUNT CLAIMS THAT IN RESPONSE TO HIS CAPTURE THE SOVIETS BOMBED THE AREA AND DEPLOYED SEARCH TEAMS. THE SOVIETS CAPTURED FIVE SUSPECTED MUJAHIDIN IN THE PROCESS AND ARRANGED A SWAP, EXCHANGING THE FIVE FOR THE BODY OF THE SOVIET. FINALLY, A RELIABLE DIPLOMAT REPORTS THAT DURING THE THIRD WEEK OF APRIL AN AIRCRAFT THAT WAS STRUCK BY GROUND FIRE OVER THE NORTHERN LOGAR VALLEY MANAGED TO LAND AT KABUL AIRPORT DESPITE SEVERE DAMAGE.

8. BALKH:

ACCORDING TO A REPORT FROM A RELIABLE DIPLOMAT WHICH IS SOURCED TO A DRA PILOT, ON APRIL 24 TWO SOVIET MIGS COLLIDED NEAR MAZAR-I-SHARIF. BOTH AIRCRAFT CRASHED, KILLING THEIR CREWS. IN A SIMILAR, BUT WE BELIEVE TO BE SEPARATE, ACCURATE REPORT, AN AFGHAN CLAIMS THAT ON APRIL 14 TWO MIG'S WERE DOWNED BY STINGERS APPROXIMATELY 45 KMS WEST OF MAZAR-I-SHARIF, NEAR THE BORDER WITH JAUZJAN PROVINCE. THE SAME AFGHAN SOURCE REPORTS THAT IN EARLY APRIL DRA FORCES DEPLOYED TO THE DIWALI MAIDAN AREA (POSSIBLY 36'54"N 66'54"E) IN SEARCH OF STINGER-EQUIPPED MUJAHIDIN TEAMS. THE DRA FORCES MET STIFF RESISTANCE AND SUFFERED 120 KILLED AND WOUNDED.

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9. PAKTIA: ACCORDING TO A DIPLOMAT OF UNDETERMINED RELIABILITY, MUJAHIDIN DOWNED TWO DRA FIXED-WING AIRCRAFT NEAR ZHAWAR ON APRIL 16. A RELIABLE DIPLOMAT REPORTS THAT ON APRIL 22 MUJAHIDIN DOWNED ONE JET AND TWO HELICOPTERS NEAR KHOST.

10. BAGHLAN:

A DIPLOMAT OF UNDETERMINED REPORTING RELIABILITY STATES THAT ACCORDING TO AN AFGHAN SOURCE, IN LATE MARCH SOVIET AND DRA TROOPS, NEAR THE CITY OF BAGHLAN SURROUNDED A MUJAHIDIN UNIT WITH ARMOR AND SOUGHT TO WIPE OUT THE RESISTORS. THE MUJAHIDIN HOWEVER, BROKE OUT OF THE ENCIRCLEMENT AND INFLICTED HEAVY CASUALTIES ON THE SOVIET/DRA FORCE, DESTROYING 15 ARMORED VEHICLES AND KILLING APPROXIMATELY 100 DRA AND SOVIET TROOPS.

11. KANDAHAR:

ACCORDING TO A RELIABLE DIPLOMATIC SOURCE, MUJAHIDIN DESTROYED ONE HELICOPTER, ONE JET, THREE TANKS AND TWO TRUCKS ON APRIL 22. DRA LOSSES IN THE ATTACK (WHICH WE ASSUME TARGETTED KANDAHAR AIRPORT) WERE 44 KILLED. A RESIDENT OF KANDAHAR PROVINCE CLAIMS THAT THE SOVIETS ARE PUTTING DIRECT MILITARY PRESSURE ON KANDAHARIS TO REDUCE THE CITY POPULATION BY INDUCING FLIGHT TO PAKISTAN OF THE LARGELY PRO-MUJAHIDIN POPULATION.

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ACTION NEA-11

INFO	LOG-00	COPY-01	ADS-00	INR-10	EUR-00	SS-00	CIAE-00
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	PM-10	PA-01	OMS-01	INRE-00	ACDA-12	SP-02	SNP-01
	PRS-01	DS-01	DSE-00	P-02	T-01	/067 W	
-----316472 271214Z /45							

Q R 270600Z APR 87
FM AMEMBASSY KABUL
TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE
SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6399
INFO AFGHAN WAR COLLECTIVE
USIA WASHDC 1668
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE
FT BRAGG NC AFVS//POE//SB
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GE
HQ USAF RAMSTEIN AB GE
HQ USAF RAMSTEIN AB GE//INCO
USNMR SHAPE BE//INTAFF//
USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL//CCJ2-IOM//
DEFENSE COMMUNICATION SUPPORT GROUP
RUCLFNA/347 TFW MOODY AFB GA//IN//
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT
FSTC INTEL OPS CHARLOTTESVILLE VA//AIAST-IO-CMI//

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12. HERAT:

ACCORDING TO A DIPLOMATIC SOURCE OF UNDETERMINED RELIABILITY,
THERE WAS HEAVY FIGHTING DURING EARLY APRIL NEAR GOZAREH
(34°13'N 62°13'E) ON THE HERAT-KANDAHAR ROAD. THE SAME SOURCE
REPORTS THAT IN THE SHADI JAN AREA (PHONETIC) A DRA COMMANDER
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AND HIS TROOPS RECENTLY SURRENDERED TO THE MUJAHIDIN.

13. GHAZNI:

A RELIABLE AFGHAN SOURCE REPORTS THAT ON APRIL 17 MUJAHIDIN
ENGAGED IN A DAY-LONG CLASH WITH SOVIET AND DRA FORCES WEST
OF GHAZNI, DESTROYING SIX SOVIET TRACKED VEHICLES, ONE TRUCK
AND ONE JEEP IN THE FIGHTING. SOVIET FORCES THEN CONDUCTED
REPRISAL ATTACKS AGAINST THE NEARBY VILLAGES OF TOURGAN

AND JIPATOU (APPROXIMATELY SIX KMS WEST OF GHAZNI CITY). THE REPRISAL ATTACKS RESULTED IN THE DEATH OF THREE MUJAHIDIN AND THE WOUNDING OF FOUR OTHERS. IN ALL, 15 CIVILIANS WERE KILLED, INCLUDING ONE FAMILY WHICH WAS KILLED WHEN THE ROOF OF THEIR HOUSE COLLAPSED AS A RESULT OF THE SOVIET BOMBARDMENT.. ON ALL, TWO MOSQUES, THREE HOUSES AND A BRIDGE WERE DESTROYED IN THE TWO VILLAGES.

14. NANGARHAR:

A RELIABLE DIPLOMAT FAMILIAR WITH THE AREA REPORTS THAT THE GOVERNOR OF NANGARHAR EXPLAINED TO RESIDENTS OF THE KHOGIANI AREA, RECENTLY HARD HIT BY A SOVIET SWEEP OPERATION, THAT HE HAD FAILED TO ALERT THEM TO EVACUATE THE AREA BEFORE THE SOVIET OPERATION BECAUSE, CONTRARY TO USUAL PRACTICE, SOVIET FORCES MOVED INTO THE AREA WITHOUT FIRST ALERTING THE GOVERNOR. THE SOVIETS REPORTEDLY WERE CONCERNED THAT THE NANGARHAR CIVIL AUTHORITIES WOULD LEAK WORD OF THE IMPENDING OPERATION TO THE MUJAHIDIN AND SO IGNORED THE PROVINCE GOVERNOR. FOLLOWING LATE MARCH-EARLY APRIL FIGHTING, A SOVIET UNIT MOVED EAST AND ATTACKED MUJAHIDIN STRONGHOLDS IN THE ZAWA (34'10"N 70'05"E) AND CHAQU AREAS SOUTHWEST OF JALALABAD. SOVIETS REPORTEDLY SUFFERED HEAVY CASUALTIES IN THESE AREAS IN EARLY-MID APRIL FIGHTING.

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15. WARDAK:

A RELIABLE DIPLOMAT REPORTS THAT HEAVY FIGHTING IN THE WARDAK AREA APRIL 17-18 COST THE LIVES OF TEN DRA TROOPS.

16. SAMANGAN:

A DIPLOMAT WITH A GOOD REPORTING RECORD CLAIMS THAT AT TAJI QUERGHAN (NEAR BAGHI JAN QUMA) MUJAHIDIN HIT A SOVIET POST IN MID-APRIL, CAPTURING SEVERAL SOVIET TROOPS.

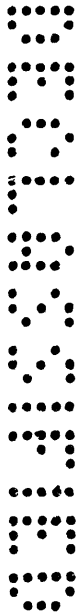
17. JAUZJAN: DIPLOMATS REPORT HEAVY CURRENT FIGHTING IN THE AREA OF SHEBERGHAN, THE CAPITAL.

18. KUNDUZ:

RELIABLE DIPLOMATIC AND AFGHAN SOURCES REPORT THAT SOVIET FORCES ARE CONTINUING REPRISAL RAIDS IN NORTHERN KUNDUZ, PARTICULARLY IN THE AREA OF EMAM SAHIB (37'11"N 68'55"E), WHERE SOVIET FORCES ARE DESTROYING VILLAGES SYSTEMATICALLY WITH ARTILLERY FIRE, FREQUENTLY USING DESTROYED VILLAGES AS FIRE BASES FOR ARTILLERY DEVASTATION OF NEIGHBORING VILLAGES. (SEE KABUL 0722 (NOTAL) FOR ADDITIONAL DETAILS ON THE APPARENT INSERTION OF SOVIET TROOPS INTO THE BORDER AREA TO CONDUCT DE-POPULATION OPERATIONS.

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ACTION NEA-11

INFO LGG-00 COPY-01 ADS-00 INR-10 EUR-00 SS-00 CIAE-00
DDDE-00 H-01 NSCE-00 NSAE-00 SSD-00 HA-09 L-03
PM-10 PA-01 OMB-01 INRE-00 ACDA-12 SP-02 SNP-01
PRS-01 DS-01 DSE-00 P-02 T-01 /067 W
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O R 270600Z APR 87
FM AMEMBASSY KABUL
TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE
SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6400
INFO AFGHAN WAR COLLECTIVE
USIA WASHDC 1669

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE
FT BRAGG NC AFVS//POE//SB
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GE
HQ USAF RAMSTEIN AB GE
HQ USAF RAMSTEIN AB GE//INCO
USMR SHAPE BEINTAFF//
USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL//CCJ2-10M//
DEFENSE COMMUNICATION SUPPORT GROUP
RUCLFNA/347 TFW MOODY AFB GA//IN//
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT
FSTC INTEL OPS CHARLOTTESVILLE VA//AIAST-IO-CMI//

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19. PARWAN:

A RELIABLE AFGHAN SOURCE REPORTS THAT FIGHTING HAS
CONTINUED IN THE JABAL OS SARAJ AREA FOR OVER ONE MONTH.
SOVIET AND DRA AIRCRAFT REPORTEDLY ARE BOMBING TARGETS
IN THE AREA AT NIGHT SO AS TO REDUCE THE THREAT POSED BY
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GROUND-TO-AIR WEAPONS. THE BOMBING IS INEFFECTIVE.

20. MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS:

21. POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS:

(A) (FACTIONAL FEUDING): A DIPLOMAT WITH GOOD UNDERSTANDING OF PDPA DEVELOPMENTS REPORTS THAT THE PDPA HAS OFFERED KARMAL LOYALIST AND POLITBURO MEMBER DR. ANAHITA RATEBZAD THE POSITION OF AMBASSADOR TO BULGARIA, BUT THAT SHE REFUSED. SEPARATELY AN AFGHAN WITH EXCELLENT ACCESS TO POLITICAL INFORMATION REPORTS THAT THERE IS STRONG RESENTMENT AMONG THE RECENTLY RELEASED KHALQI LEADERS, SUCH AS FORMER FOREIGN MINISTER DR. SHAH WALI. THE FORMER AMIN LOYALISTS REPORTEDLY REGARD THE SOVIETS, AND THEIR OLD PARCHAMI RIVALS WITH GREAT DISDAIN. THEY ALSO HAVE STRONG FEELINGS ABOUT KHALQI LEADER MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR GULZBZOI WHO IS SEEN AS HAVING BETRAYED HAFIZULLAH AMIN. REPORTEDLY THE AMIN KHLOIS ARE GRADUALLY UNITING BEHIND ONE OF THE PDPA FOUNDERS AND FORMER MINISTER OF FINANCE UNDER TARAQI AND AMIN, ABDUL KARIM MYSIAUK.

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ALTHOUGH WILLING TO BIDE THEIR TIME FOR NOW, THESE KHALQIS REPORTEDLY SEE ALLIES IN THE MUJAHIDIN. FINALLY, WELL SOURCED DIPLOMATIC REPORTS DESCRIBE THE KARMAL FACTION OF PARCHAM AS THREATENING TO CREATE A NEW PARTY IF THEY ARE READ OUT OF THE PDPA.

(B) (DRA REVERTS TO HARD PUBLIC LINE:) IN A BRIEFING FOR "FRIENDLY" CHIEFS OF MISSION ON APRIL 26, FOREIGN MINISTER ABDUL WAKIL STATED THAT "THE SAUR REVOLUTION IS IRREVERSIBLE".

(C) (CZECH FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES): THE CZECH FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVED IN KABUL AT 1700 ON APRIL 26.

(D) (FOREIGN GUESTS AT THE SAUR REVOLUTION CELEBRATION): SEVERAL FOREIGN DELEGATIONS HAVE ARRIVED IN KABUL FOR THE SAUR REVOLUTION CELEBRATION, INCLUDING A THREE-PERSON DELEGATION REPRESENTING THE GHANIAN COMMUNIST PARTY, A DELEGATION OF DANISH COMMUNISTS, AND SEVERAL WESTERN JOURNALISTS, INCLUDING THREE AMERICANS.

(E) (SECURITY FOR NAJIB): COINCIDENT WITH DRA MEDIA CLAIMS THAT AN ASSASSINATION PLOT HAD BEEN DISCOVERED AGAINST GENERAL SECRETARY NAJIB. (SEE MEDIA, PARA 22) NAJIB TWICE APPEARED IN PUBLIC THIS PAST WEEK WITH EIGHT SOVIET BODY GUARDS.

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ACTION NEA-11

INFO	LOG-00	COPY-01	ADS-00	INR-10	EUR-00	SS-00	CIAE-00
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	PM-10	PA-01	OMB-01	INRE-00	ACDA-12	SP-02	SNP-01
	PRS-01	DS-01	DSE-00	P-02	T-01	/067 W	

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O R 270600Z APR 87

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL
TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE
SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6401
INFO AFGHAN WAR COLLECTIVE
USIA WASHDC 1670

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE

FT BRAGG NC/AFVS//POE//SB

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GE

HQ USAFE RAMSTEIN AB GE

HQ USAFE RAMSTEIN AB GE//INCO

USNMR SHAPE BE//INTAEF//

USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL//CCJ2-IOM//

DEFENSE COMMUNICATION SUPPORT GROUP

RUCLFNA/347 TFW MOODY AFB GA//IN//

USCOSOUTH NAPLES IT

FSTC INTELOPS CHARLOTTESVILLE VA//AIAST-ID-CMI//

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22. KABULMEDIA:

(A) (ASSASSINATION PLOT AGAINST NAJIB): ON APRIL 21 BAKHTAR
INFORMATION AGENCY ANNOUNCED DISCOVERY OF AN ASSINATION
PLOT AGAINST NAJIB "PREPARED BY THE INTELLIGENCE SERVICE OF
PAKISTAN...AND TO BE CARRIED OUT WITH THE ACTIVE PARTICIPATION
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AND SUPERVISION OF U.S. C.I.A. PERSONNEL RESIDING IN PAKISTAN."
INTRIGUINGLY, THE STATEMENT CLAIMED THAT THE PLAN INVOLVED
USE OF "THE ENEMIES OF THE PROCESS OF NATIONAL RECONCILIATION
IN AFGHANISTAN." SUGGESTING THAT THE ALLEGED PLOT MERELY
COULD HAVE INVOLVED ELEMENTS IN THE PARTY OR REGIME WHO
OPPOSE NAJIB AND THE "RECONCILIATION" POLICY.

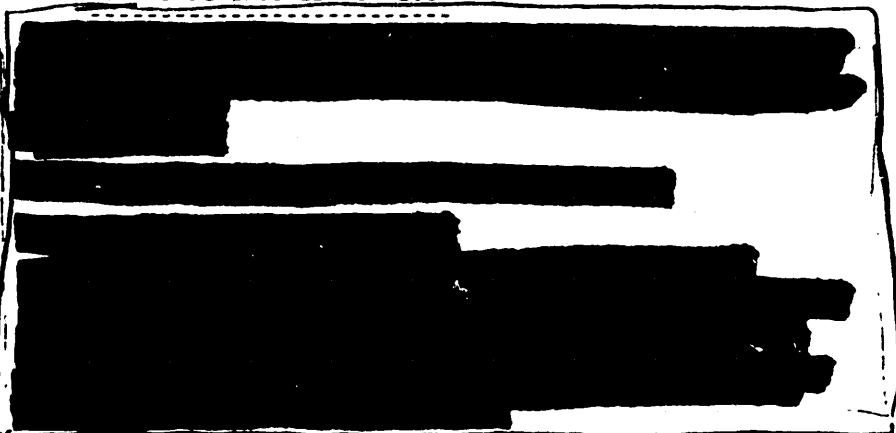
(B) (PAY HIKE FOR DRA MILITARY ANNOUNCED): KABUL MEDIA
ANNOUNCED PAY INCREASES FOR ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY PERSONNEL.

THESE INCREASES ARE IN DIFFERENT AMOUNTS WITH THE BIGGEST INCREASES FOR PERSONNEL WHO HAVE BEEN RECALLED (AS OPPOSED TO ORIGINAL CONSCRIPTS) AND TO "FIGHTING UNITS," PARTICULARLY THOSE ON "SPECIAL MISSIONS" SUCH AS BORDER UNITS. THE PAY INCREASES WILL BE INTRODUCED GRADUALLY WITH PERSONNEL RECALLED AND ON "SPECIAL MISSIONS" BENEFITTING FIRST.

(C) (STINGER MISSILE REPORTEDLY SEIZED): THE KABUL NEW TIMES REPORTED, APRIL 25, THAT THE DRA HAD SEIZED A STINGER MISSILE LAUNCHER AND ONE "SHELL" FROM A MUJAHIDIN CACHE IN THE SHAKADARA AREA.

(D) (TU-154 DELIVERY): AFGHAN TELEVISION REPORTED ON APRIL 26 THE DELIVERY OF THE FIRST OF TWO TU-154 AIRCRAFT FOR BAKHTAR AIRLINES. THIS AIRCRAFT, WHICH WAS ORDERED SEVERAL YEARS AGO, IS EXPECTED TO BE USED IN INTERNATIONAL PASSENGER SERVICE TO SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASE THE CAPACITY OF BAKHTAR'S AGING TWO-AIRCRAFT FLEET USED FOR INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS.

23. NOT TO BE BRIEFED TOPRESS:



(C) (IL-76 ARRIVALS): WE HAVE NOTED THE FOLLOWING PATTERNS FOR IL-76 ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES AT KABUL AIRPORT: IL-76'S ARRIVED AT 0645 ON APRIL 23, 24 AND 25. ON APRIL 21, 23 AND 24, IL-76'S DEPARTED AT 1080, 1000 AND 1007 RESPECTIVELY.

24 MOSCOW MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. EALUM

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